ASSOCIATED STUDENT BODIES

ADULT READERS ONLY

ISSUE TWO
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Associated
Student Bodies

Issue 2

Story by
Lance Rund

Art by
Chris McKinley

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ASSOCIATED STUDENT BODIES

90 DAYS OF FEAR AND LOATHING

The scariest thing about doing a comic book is that once you start, you can't stop. Rather like eating pretzels, or Internet addiction...

At this point, the storyline for *Associated Student Bodies* is pretty much plotted out. We know where we're going, we more-or-less know how we're going to get there. Now all we need to do is *do* it. Easy, right?

And if you believe that, we have a bridge to sell you...

NEW AND IMPROVED

Starting with this issue, the format of *Associated Student Bodies* will consist of the main story (Daniel and Marcus' tale) for around 20 pages, drawn by Chris, with the remainder being "backup" stories (generally 2 per issue). These backups will be 4 to 8 pages in length; some will be drawn by Chris, and others by guest artists. The backups will give the "secondary" characters a chance to tell their own stories. Covers, both front and back, will generally be done by guest artists.

In this issue, we have "Peeping Bandit" and "Coyote Rose". "Peeping Bandit" tells a bit about Ricky and Steven, while "Coyote Rose" introduces a couple of off-campus characters (Erik and Randy).

Which brings up the topic of future stories. Issue 3's main story will introduce Daniel to one of the worst risks of being gay; the first backup story will spotlight some of the places Timmy hangs around, and the second covers a truly frightening prospect: Halloween at the dorms of Leland University. The cover will be by Eric Elliott.

THINK! IT AIN'T ILLEGAL YET...

Once again, we'd like to point out that, although we do not usually depict our characters using condoms, that's no excuse for our readers not to. Play safe. Stay alive.

I WEB YOU, YOU WEB ME...

We have a web site! Fan art, background information, a mailing list, all kinds of fun stuff! Come visit us at:

`http://www.arclight.net/asb`

And while you're at it, check out this little tidbit...

`http://www.arclight.net/asb/caption`

See you in 90...

Lance Rund
Chris McKinley

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art by
Chris
McKinley

written and
published by
Lance Rund

Associated Student Bodies

"Chrysalis"

ONLY A DREAM... ONLY A DREAM...
ZZZZZ
IT REALLY DID HAPPEN...
WELL HELLOOOOO...

AND HOW ARE WE FEELING TODAY?
ER... UH...
THAT GOOD, HUH?
I HAD NICE DREAMS.
FEEL LIKE TALKING ABOUT... LAST NIGHT?
UH... NOT RIGHT NOW, I GOTTA, Y'KNOW, GET TO CLASS... I'M SORTA RUNNING LATE...
WELL, OKAY... BUT THIS IS REALLY SOMETHING WE SHOULD TALK ABOUT... MAYBE TONIGHT?
UH... UH... OKAY, I GUESS...
I CAN'T BELIEVE I DID THAT...
WHAT WOULD MOM AND DAD THINK? DAD WOULD SAY I'M GOING TO--
HELL, MR. KING?
WHAT?

Roman Catholic Church
Reading due Fri
pp. 55-321
DANTE
1308-1321
Hell
Purgatory
Heaven
NOT A MORNING PERSON? LET'S TRY AGAIN... WHO DID DANTE PLACE IN THE FURTHEST DEPTHS OF HELL?
UM... TRAITORS. HE PUT TRAITORS THERE...
WHY?
...'CAUSE HE WAS IN EXILE WHEN HE WROTE IT, AND SO HE THOUGHT THE PEOPLE THAT KICKED HIM OUT WERE TRAITORS?
VERY GOOD, MR. KING.
DURING THIS PERIOD IN ITALIAN HISTORY, BLAH, BLAH, BLAH...
⋛SIGH⋚

OH, HI, DANIEL!
Coke
HI, DANNY!
WHAT'S WITH HIM?
STAIRWELL
YOU WERE THE SAME WAY YOUR FIRST TIME.
OH... HELLO.
HI.
SO... HOW ARE YOU DOING?... REALLY DOING?

AM I SUPPOSED TO FEEL THIS SCARED?
I WISH I KNEW.
I DON'T *WANT* YOU TO BE AFRAID, BUT EVEN IF YOU ARE, THAT'S OKAY.
ALL MY LIFE I'VE BEEN TAUGHT THAT THIS IS WRONG... I KNOW BETTER, BUT THAT DOESN'T CHANGE THE WAY I'M FEELING RIGHT NOW.
I DIDN'T MEAN FOR THIS TO HURT YOU, DANIEL... BUT IT'S NEVER EASY, AT FIRST.
REMEMBER LAST NIGHT, WHEN WE SAID THAT *WHY* IS AS IMPORTANT AS *WHO*?
YEAH...?

WHY *DID* YOU SAY YES?
ALL MY LIFE I'VE BEEN ALONE. EVERYONE ELSE HAD FRIENDS, EVERYONE ELSE WAS HAVING A GOOD TIME... BUT NOBODY REALLY WANTED TO BE WITH ME...
...UNTIL YOU. I'D DO *ANYTHING* TO END THE LONELINESS.
STUPID... STUPID... STUPID...
WHAT..?

NO, NO-- IT'S OKAY!
BUT... I TOOK ADVANTAGE OF YOU... I WAS SELFISH AND STUPID, I SHOULD HAVE--
IT WAS MY CHOICE! I DID SAY ***YES***... DON'T FEEL BAD FOR ASKING!
NOW WAIT A MINUTE... WHO'S COMFORTING WHO HERE?
I LOST TRACK.
I DON'T REGRET IT. I'M STILL SCARED, BUT IT WAS MY CHOICE. I DON'T GET TO CHOOSE OFTEN.
LET'S BE SCARED TOGETHER, THEN.

I AM GOING TO NEED A LITTLE TIME TO DEAL WITH THIS, THOUGH...
DON'T WE ALL?
IN THE MEANTIME, I KNOW SOMETHING THAT MIGHT HELP.
THESE PEOPLE KNOW WHAT YOU'RE GOING THROUGH, AND WILL MAKE A LOT FEWER STUPID MISTAKES THAN I DO.
I THINK YOU SHOULD GO TALK WITH THEM.
ELAND UNIVERSITY LESBIAN AND GAY ALLIANCE
Meetings Every Friday
A SUPPORT GROUP?
YEAH... IT SOUNDS HOKEY, BUT IT WORKS.
IF YOU SAY SO...
NO "IF YOU SAY SO." YOUR CHOICE, REMEMBER?
JUST KIDDING.
SMARTASS. MY FAVORITE KIND.

ΔTX
PARTY
COPLAND STUDENT CE
1960
WELL… IT CAN'T BE ANY WORSE THAN THE DORM…
HEY! YOU WITH THE HEAD!
STUDENT GOVERNMENT NOMINATIONS OPEN
COPLAND CENTER SCHEDULE
LELAND
GAY ALLIANCE
ALL WELCOME!
7:30 – 10:00
HELLO…?

HELLO!
EXIT
HI THERE!
HI!
DID YOU SEE "JEFFREY"?
OH, DANNY! FANCY MEETING YOU HERE!
WELL, MARCUS SAID I SHOULD COME...
≈GIGGLE≈
UH... YEAH, THAT KINDA MAKES SENSE...
SO, I TAKE IT YOU'RE NEW TO THIS?
ABOUT AS NEW AS YOU CAN GET.
GUYS, I'D LIKE TO INTRODUCE DANIEL... HE'S IN MY DORM. I GUESS WE CORRUPTED HIM!
DO YOU KNOW TIMMY?
YOU'RE IN HILLARD? LUCKY!
OKAY, LET'S GET STARTED... I'M JULIAN, AND I'M A COUNSELOR WITH THE STUDENT HEALTH CENTER, AND I'M GAY JUST LIKE YOU.

TONIGHT, WE'RE GOING TO TALK ABOUT JUST ALL THE GOOD THINGS ABOUT BEING GAY.
ALL THE COOL THINGS THE STRAIGHT WORLD IS JEALOUS OF. WHO'S GOT SOME EXAMPLES?
WE'RE SNAPPIER DRESSERS!
WE'RE MORE CREATIVE!
WE CAN DANCE!
WE GET TO HAVE PRIDE PARADES!
ALL THE GIRLS LOVE US, AND IT MAKES THE STRAIGHTS JEALOUS!
WE DON'T HAVE TO GET DRAFTED!
WE'RE BETTER LOVERS!
WE GOT BIGGER DICKS!
I KNOW WHAT BOYS LIKE!
I KNOW WHAT GIRLS LIKE!
I GET TO WEAR LOTS OF LEATHER!
I'M ACCEPTED FOR WHO I AM...
AND HOW ABOUT YOU TWO?
I'M NOT LONELY ANYMORE!

SO... HOW DID IT GO?
POUNCE
THUD
THAT WELL, HUH?
GIMME!
I THINK YOU SHOULD ≡HRRRFF≡ GO TO THESE MEETINGS MORE OFTEN!
MM-HMM!
I OWE YOU ONE, REMEMBER? NOW LET ME BE SELFISH FOR A WHILE.
WHO AM I TO ARGUE?

RRRRIINNGGG
HELLO?!
HE ANSWERED?
UH... UH... HI, MOM...
OH, UH... YEAH, I'M SETTLING IN FINE....
ZZZZZIIIIIIIP
UH... YEAH... MOM? CAN I ≥ERF≤... UH, CALL YOU RIGHT BACK?
SCHLOOOORRRRP
BYE, MOM--
≥GIGGLE≤ YOU'RE WEIRD, MARCUS.
YOU THINK I'M WEIRD... JUST WAIT'LL TOMORROW.
WHY? WHAT'S TOMORROW?

UD
M♥M

SFW
TOMA
GAS
1.23%
1.41%
1.19%
FALL
ΔZZ
LELAND UNIVERSITY
GAY CHRISTIAN
GOD HATES FAGS

WOW... THIS IS SO WEIRD.
ISN'T IT, THOUGH?
AZZ
HMM... INTERESTING OUTFITS THEY'RE ALMOST WEARING.
OH, LOOK!
WELL, HELLO THERE.
UH... ER... HI!
PRIDE OF SANTUM'S
OH, HE'S CUTE! CAN WE BORROW YOUR KITTY, MR. WOLF? WE PROMISE TO BRING HIM BACK.
WELL, DANIEL?
I... I COULDN'T!
AND WHY NOT?
I DON'T KNOW... I...

THANK YOU, MY GOOD WOLF.
EEP!
SEIZE THE MOMENT... EVERY DAY YOU HAVE FEWER OF THEM.
I SUPPOSE YOU'RE RIGHT...
PROUD MOM
GAS
PRIDE of SAN TOMAS

"PEEPING BANDIT"

"Mulder, are you sure it wasn't a girlie scream?"
So Dannylion, tell me all about you 'n Markiewoof!
Um.
He, I mean we, we're good friends, I suppose.
You mean he's your bed-friend (giggle). Isn't he a gorgeous hunk?
Yeah, I-hey! How would you know?
Ricky's naughty. Ain'tcha?

Story: Lance Rund
Art: Terrie Smith
Letters: Glen Wooten (assist)

I just wish Steven would be naughty too, he's like the Holy Grail.
Holy Grail..?
Yeah, you know, perfect and unattainable. Such a pretty puppy!
Hi guys!
Hi!
Speak of th' devil..
Hmph! He's with **THAT** girl! **Hussy!**
Don't you have homework to do or something?
Canine studies!
Sorry 'bout that, Ricky.
(sigh) He's so depressingly straight! I could be SO much better for him than HER.
Um, he seems happy enough.
That's cause he hasn't tried! Scaredy-dog!
Wanna play doctor?
Only if I can be the nurse with the cold hands! (giggle)
(Whimper)

TOO BAD THIS IS A DOOR,NOT A WINDOW, HUH?
YEAH.
WINDOW!

Poor Ricky.
His loss is your gain. C'mere, you.
I got some canine for you to study.
Oooh, look, it's a boy!
Why don't you look real close to make sure.
Come to Mommy.

You know what that does to me!
Remind me...
It's even better than I'd dreamed.
It's so perfect.
...Here, kitty kitty...
Oh please, please, let him come..!
Puppy boy likes that? Show me how much.

...NGGG!
UH-OH...
CRACK!
WAHHH!

Got'cha!
Whump!
Looks like your thingie done got you in trouble.
Don't it always? (giggle)
C'mon, let's go make your thingie go down
Oooh! Seconds!
What was that sound?
Looks like a couple of loose nuts.

"COYOTE ROSE"

WAKE UP, BUDDY... END OF THE LINE
YOU SURE THIS IS WHERE YOU WANNA BE? THEY'RE KINDA FUNNY IN THERE, IF YOU KNOW WHAT I MEAN...
OH, I'LL BE FINE, I'M SURE. THANKS THE THE LIFT.
ISTRO
Big Earl

ART BY CHRIS MCKINLEY
STORY BY LANCE RUND

...YOU!
PINCH ME, I'M DREAMING... RANDY! I DIDN'T KNOW YOU WERE BACK IN TOWN.
THE THOUGHT OF YOUR FINE BODY BROUGHT ME BACK
I'D BETTER NOT TELL JEFFREY, THEN... HE GETS JEALOUS, Y'KNOW
YOUR LOSS, BABE.
SO WHAT BRINGS YOU HERE? NOT THAT I MIND..!
ACTUALLY, I WAS HOPING I COULD PLAY HERE TONIGHT. I COULD USE A FEW BUCKS.
OF COURSE YOU CAN. YOU'RE ALWAYS WELCOME HERE.
ON THE HOUSE.
I'LL PUT ON A GOOD SHOW FOR YA.

The STONEWALL BISTRO
The STONEWALL
LIVE music tonight
SPECIAL GUEST: SCRATCH ROSE!
YOU'D BETTER GO PLUG IN... LOOKS LIKE AN EARLY CROWD TONIGHT.
COOL... THAT MEANS A LONG SET. BETTER TIPS.
LET'S DO IT, BABY...
Marshall
LADIES AND GENTLEMEN... WE HAVE A TREAT FOR YOU TONIGHT. I KNOW YOU'LL LOVE HIM LIKE I DO... SCRRRRATCH ROSE!

DAMN, THIS THING'S PHALLIC...
GIGGLE SNICKER
...REMINDS ME OF YOU, ERIK.
NOW HERE'S A LITTLE SOMETHING I WROTE ABOUT A MONTH AGO...
...IT'S CALLED "I NEVER STOOD A CHANCE WITH YOU"
GOODBYE, MY LOVE, I'M LEAVING NOW
THE ROAD IS CALLING ME OH SO CLEAR
YOU'LL WAKE UP AND FIND ME GONE
CAUSE I JUST CAN'T BEAR TO SEE YOUR TEARS
I NEVER SHOULD HAVE LET YOU LOVE ME
THIS DAY WOULD COME, WE KNEW FROM THE START
WE GOT TOO CLOSE, AND I GOT TOO SCARED
I JUST CAN'T STOP BREAKING HEARTS
I KNEW WE NEVER HAD A CHANCE
OF LASTING LOVE, OR OF ROMANCE
HOW I WISH IT WASN'T TRUE
BUT I NEVER STOOD A CHANCE WITH YOU...
YAMAHA

HELLO... NOW THERE'S A SIGHT...
THOSE TWO HAVE A CHANCE. BETTER THAN ERIK AND I DID.
CLAP
CLAP
THANK YOU. NOW LET'S TRY SOMETHING A BIT LESS MAUDLIN...
CLAP
CLAP
CLAP
CLAP

GREAT SET, RANDY, THEY LOVED YOU!
I LOVE 'EM RIGHT BACK
CAN YOU COME BACK TOMORROW NIGHT?
SURE, BABE. THIS IS AS CLOSE AS I GET TO HOME.
EXCUSE ME... THE GENTLEMAN WITH THE GUITAR HAS OFFERED TO BUY YOU TWO A DRINK. WHAT CAN I GET YOU?
The STONEWALL BISTRO
LIVE Music tonight

LETTERS FROM HOME

Dear Mom, College is great! My roommate is weird.
Could you send me some money?

Letters, letters, letters. The more the merrier! (note: some of these letters have been edited for length)

From Che Fox...

I'd like to thank you both from the bottom of my heart for creating *Associated Student Bodies*. It's a story that's been begging to be told for years now—and Daniel's journey, even though it's just begun, has already moved me.

It's extremely odd that until *ASB* came along, I had no real interest in furry comics—or comics in general! There's something special, something true-to-heart, about the tales of the students at Hillar East. Really, Daniel's struggles mirror the experiences many queer folk go through as they learn exactly who they are, and I'm no exception.

Being a first-year college student myself, it struck a note deep down inside me when I saw everything Daniel was dealing with were the things *I've* been struggling with in my 'virgin' year. Standing in never-ending lines, dealing with the losses of privacy, and feeling kind of dazed and alone while doing laundry in a dormitory are conflicts almost anyone who's attended college will identify with.

Well, okay, I'll admit I haven't found the cute dorm-mates yet, and there's no big senior wolf who wants to share a bed with me, but I can still hope! *grin*

> *Hey, if you find one... let us know, okay? Higher education is a continuing process... —lance and chris*

Actually, I have a question too. Is there any way one can get a subscription to *ASB*? I'd really like to be able to get the rest of the issues outside of once a year at ConFurence!

Again, thanks a million for telling Daniel's story to all of us. Keep up the wonderful work—you've definately touched someone out there.

Until the next issue!

Che Fox

> *Daniel's story is intended to be our story — yours, mine, and everyone who's ever felt isolated in a shallow, often-hypocritical society. It's a story everyone has already heard, because they're the heroes.*

From Robert Parish:

WOOF!

Well, I've managed to snarf a copy of your "Associated Student Bodies" comic book from a friend to read, having gotten impatient to wait for my own copy to arrive in the mail. Damn fine bit of work. If you all plan to offer subscriptions, lemme know, I'll sign up. I have to tell you, I was very touched by the ending of the comic book, where Daniel and Marcus shared their moment of intimacy. It was beautiful, and almost brought tears to the eyes of this foolishly romantic old wolf. <happy sigh!> Especially whene Marcus kissed Daniel. There is no greater joy in my life than to hold another male in my arms after making love, and that single kiss made my identification with Marcus in the story complete. It was such an appropriate thing to do, and made me proud to be a gay male wolf.

> *Innocence is found between the ears, not between the legs. (Who said that? I said that! —lance)*
>
> *Marcus is such a romantic... the roses-on-the-pillow type, once he gets warmed up. But there's another side to him (ominous music sounds) that we'll see in issue 3.*

My compliments to both author and illustrator. The dialogue flows naturally and really draws the sympathetic reader in, and the art's clean and economical style is quite expressive and nicely does its part to help tell the story. Too often art and story in independent comics are not well balanced like this, and I'm glad that you have avoided this conflict.

I do have to say this: no way in hell is Steven straight. He's too damn cute in those cut-offs! Plus he obviously is sweet on Daniel (not that I fault him).

—Robert "Four-Eyes" Parish

> *(lance: "Steven is my favorite character - an exercise in frustration.") Poor Steven, no one believes he's straight! Especially Ricky...*

From "Ferret":

I purchased a copy of your comic while attending ConFurence 9. It was a very enjoyable story. The characters were interesting and drew me in quickly. The art was well done throughout, but the writing was what really caught me.

Sure, it may be almost a stereotype, the young kid newly away from home. There are certain parallels with my life, just make the backdrop the U.S. Army. What eremains the same are the emotions. That is what makes it so easy to identify and sympathize with Daniel; we've all been there. I don't know how many people would have the courage to explore our feelings so quickly, the way Daniel did with Marcus. Their love scene was tastefully done and all the more romantic and erotic for the restraint thay used.

> *Daniel did rush in to things, in a way, yes. And as we've seen in this issue, it's not without price. He's a confused young man, making life-altering choices, and without all the information he might want.*
>
> *Sounds familiar, yes?*
>
> *Congratulations, by the way, on your decision to serve in the Armed Services.*

There were a couple of continuity errors I noticed. You've probably been bombarded with these already, right? Okay, page four, panel three: Tina assigns Daniel to room 207. Page 9, panel two: Daniel gives his room assignment as 208. Also, according to the ASB calendar, Steven"'s last name is Paris. What is he doing in the K—L line for registration?

> *Yes, we boo-boo'ed on the room number for Daniel and Marcus. And those of you who bought the calendar noticed something else... Steven's last name is "Paris", but he's in the "K—L" line in the registration hall. Um... "L" for Lassie? (should have been "K—P"... my bad. —lance)*

Keep up the excellent work. Thank you for bringing the fandom your comic.

Furrily yours,

Ferret

ASSOCIATED STUDENT BODIES
P.O. BOX 1299 • CUPERTINO, CA 95015-1299

All letters of comment become the property of the publishers of Associated Student Bodies. Don't let that stop you, though!

Pride follows many paths, speaks in many voices, and comes in many forms...

...some stranger than others.

AN ARCLIGHT
PRESS PRODUCTION